

What is claimed:

1. A multi-media communication management system for operation with a plurality of subscriber stations, the multi-media communication management system comprising:

5 a network communication circuit for multi-media communication with said plurality of subscriber stations;

10 a control module for establishing a communication session with the subscriber stations through the network communication circuit, the control module comprising:

15 means for receiving an indication of a plurality of recipients selected to receive a multi-cast message;

20 means for identifying a plurality of recipient subscriber stations, each recipient subscriber station being one of the plurality of subscriber stations that is associated with a corresponding one of the plurality of recipients;

25 means for transmitting a message to each one of the recipient subscriber stations to participate in a session group; and

30 means for multi-casting a message to the recipient subscriber stations that are participating in said session group.

2. The multi-media communication management system of claim 1, wherein the means for receiving an indication of a plurality of recipients comprises:

25 means for providing a list of recipient groups to an initiating subscriber station;

30 means for receiving an indication from the initiating subscriber station of a subscriber selection of a recipient group from said list of recipient groups;

35 means for identifying each recipient included within the selected recipient group.

3. The multi-media communication management system of claim 2, wherein the means for providing a list of recipient groups comprises:

means for providing display content messages to the initiating subscriber station, the display content messages including the list of recipient groups; and

means for providing display layout control messages to the initiating subscriber station, the display layout control messages including instructions

5 utilized by the initiating subscriber station for displaying the list of recipient groups on a display screen associated with the initiating subscriber station.

4. The multi-media communication management system of claim 1, wherein the means for identifying each one of the recipient subscriber stations comprises:

means for identifying a recipient subscriber device associated with each one of the plurality of recipients; and

means for identifying each one of the subscriber stations at which one of the recipient subscriber devices is coupled.

15 5. The multi-media communication management system of claim 1, wherein the control module further comprises:

means for identifying a plurality of recipients that are not associated with any of the subscriber stations; and

20 means for sending an audio file comprising the voice mail message to a plurality of e-mail addresses, each e-mail address being associated with one of the plurality of recipients that are not associated with any of the subscriber stations.

6. The multi-media communication management system of claim 1, wherein the control module further comprises:

25 means for identifying those of the plurality of the subscriber stations who are members of the selected recipient group that do not receive the voice message; and

means for sending an audio file comprising the voice mail message to a plurality of e-mail addresses, each e-mail address being associated with one of the 30 plurality of recipients that are associated with one of those subscriber stations who are members of the selected recipient group that did not receive the voice

message.

7. The multi-media communication management system of claim 1, further comprising:

5 a service provider interface for interconnecting said network communication circuit with a service provider communication medium; and

wherein the control module further comprises:

means for establishing a voice communication session with a remote voice communication device via the service provider interface; and

10 wherein the means for receiving an indication of a plurality of recipients to receive a multicast message comprises:

means for providing a list of recipient groups to the remote voice communication device;

15 means for receiving an indication of subscriber selection of a recipient group;

means for identifying each recipient included within the recipient group.

8. The multi-media communication management system of claim 7,

20 wherein the control module further comprises:

means for establishing a data communication session with the remote communication device via the service provider interface and wherein the means for providing a list of recipient groups to the remote communication device comprises:

means for providing display content messages to the remote device, 25 the display content messages including the list of recipient groups; and

means for providing display layout control messages to the remote device, the display layout control messages including instructions utilized by the remote device for displaying the list of recipient groups on a display screen associated with the remote device.

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9. The multi-media communication management system of claim 8,

wherein the means for identifying a one of the plurality of subscriber stations associated with each recipient comprises:

means for identifying a recipient subscriber device associated with each one of the plurality of recipients; and

5 means for identifying each one of the subscriber stations at which one of the recipient subscriber devices is coupled.

10. A method of multicasting a voice message to selected subscribers to a multimedia communication management system, the method comprising:

10 receiving an indication of a plurality of recipients selected to receive a multi-cast message;

identifying a plurality of recipient subscriber stations, each recipient subscriber station being a subscriber station that is associated with a one of said plurality of selected to receive the multi-cast message;

15 transmitting a message to each one of the recipient subscriber stations to participate in a session group; and

multi-casting a message to the recipient subscriber stations that are participating in said session group.

20 11. The method of claim 10, wherein the step of receiving an indication of a plurality of recipients comprises:

providing a list of recipient groups to an initiating subscriber station;

receiving an indication from the initiating subscriber station of a subscriber selection of a recipient group from said list of recipient groups;

25 identifying each recipient included within the selected recipient group.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein the step of providing a list of recipient groups comprises:

providing display content messages to the initiating subscriber station, the

30 display content messages including the list of recipient groups; and

providing display layout control messages to the initiating subscriber station,

the display layout control messages including instructions utilized by the initiating subscriber station for displaying the list of recipient groups on a display screen associated with the initiating subscriber station.

5 13. The method of claim 12, wherein the step of identifying each one of the recipient subscriber stations comprises:

 identifying a recipient subscriber device associated with each one of the plurality of recipients; and

10 identifying each one of the subscriber stations at which one of the recipient subscriber devices is coupled.

 14. The method of claim 10, further comprising:

 identifying a plurality of recipients that are not associated with any of the subscriber stations; and

15 sending an audio file comprising the voice mail message to a plurality of e-mail addresses, each e-mail address being associated with one of the plurality of recipients that are not associated with any of the subscriber stations.

 15. The method of claim 10, further comprising:

20 identifying those of the plurality of the subscriber stations who are members of the selected recipient group that do not receive the voice message; and

 sending an audio file comprising the voice mail message to a plurality of e-mail addresses, each e-mail address being associated with one of the plurality of recipients that are associated with one of those subscriber stations who are

25 members of the selected recipient session group that did not receive the voice message.

 16. The method of claim 10 further comprising:

 establishing a voice communication session with a remote voice communication device via a service provider interface; and

 wherein the step of receiving an indication of a plurality of recipients to

receive a multicast message comprises:

providing a list of recipient groups to the remote voice communication device;

receiving an indication of subscriber selection of a recipient group;
5 and

identifying each recipient included within the recipient group.

17. The method of claim 16, further comprising:

establishing a data communication session with the remote communication device via the service provider interface and wherein the means for providing a list of recipient groups to the remote communication device comprises:

providing display content messages to the remote device, the display content messages including the list of recipient groups; and

15 providing display layout control messages to the remote device, the display layout control messages including instructions utilized by the remote device for displaying the list of recipient groups on a display screen associated with the remote device.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein the step of identifying a one of the

20 plurality of subscriber stations associated with each recipient comprises:

identifying a recipient subscriber device associated with each one of the plurality of recipients; and

identifying each one of the subscriber stations at which one of the recipient subscriber devices is coupled.